

FACT SHEET

REVISIONS TO THE INITIAL SOURCE CATEGORY LIST AND SCHEDULE FOR STANDARDS

5/17/96 (*signed into effect today by the Assistant Administrator of EPA's Office of Air and Radiation*)

TODAY'S ACTION...

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is issuing a revision to the list of categories of industrial sources (known as source categories) for which it intends to develop regulations to control toxic air pollutants. Toxic air pollutants are those known or suspected of causing cancer or other serious health effects.

EPA's revised source category list will result in a total of 175 categories for which EPA has either already issued regulations or intends to issue regulations. Today's notice also updates the schedule by which EPA intends to propose and promulgate regulations for each listed source category.

BACKGROUND

Under Section 112 of the Clean Air Act, EPA is required to establish a program to regulate stationary sources which emit toxic air pollutants. EPA developed a list of source categories that consists of industrial processes emitting toxic air pollutants. "Major" source categories emit over 10 tons per year of a single toxic pollutant, or over 25 tons per year of multiple toxic pollutants. "Area" source categories are those categories which emit toxic air pollutants in quantities below the 10- and 25-ton limits and are not considered major sources. EPA published the initial list of 174 source categories, which includes major and area sources, on July 16, 1992. EPA also published a schedule on December 3, 1993 for developing air toxics regulations for each of these source categories.

The Clean Air Act requires EPA to periodically amend the source category list in response to public comment or new information. Source categories may be added to the list at any time provided EPA makes a showing that the category contains "major"-emitting sources or the category includes area sources which pose a threat of adverse effects. In the case of today's action, EPA used updated information from other EPA regulatory development

projects and studies. Several industry groups also provided technical data to support the changes.

WHAT INDUSTRIES WILL BE AFFECTED BY TODAY'S CHANGES?

Added Source Categories

As a result of new information, EPA has determined that the following source categories emit toxic air pollutants in significant quantities or "major" amounts such that they must be added to the list of categories:

- **Carbon Black Manufacturing** , which is a color and strengthening agent used primarily in rubber manufacturing;
- **Ethylene Processes** , which includes the production of ethylene and propylene from refineries and other chemical plants;
- **Flexible Polyurethane Foam Fabrication Operations** , which includes plants which cut, glue, or laminate pieces of flexible foam;
- **Friction Products Manufacturing** , which includes the production of brake linings and disc pads; and
- **Leather Tanning and Finishing Operations** , which use chemical and mechanical means to produce leather products with a variety of finished characteristics.

Deleted Source Categories

The following source categories are removed from the source category list. EPA has obtained new information that indicates the data used previously to list these as "major" source categories are no longer valid. EPA has concluded that there are no "major"-emitting sources in each of these categories:

- Chromium Chemicals Manufacturing
- Lead Acid Battery Manufacturing
- Non-stainless Steel Manufacturing - Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Operation
- Stainless Steel Manufacturing - Electric Arc Furnace (EAF) Operation
- Wood Treatment and Preservation Operations

The new data revealed that emissions releases at the largest plants in each of these five categories are significantly less than the levels classified as a "major" source. Furthermore, EPA believes that none of these categories warrant listing as area source categories.

Other Changes

Several other, less consequential changes are included in this action. These changes include modifying a title of a source category and relocating a category to a more appropriate industrial classification.

This notice also consolidates several previously published revisions to the source category list that EPA has issued since July 1992. For example, in today's notice EPA is updating the source category list to reflect a November 1993 action that added Marine Vessel Loading Operations as a category of major sources.

WHEN WILL REGULATIONS FOR THE NEW CATEGORIES BE ISSUED?

The CAA requires that all source categories added to the list after the original listing must be scheduled for regulation by November 15, 2000, or two years after the addition, whichever is later. Thus, all of the categories being added in this notice are scheduled for regulation by November 15, 2000.

ARE FUTURE ACTIONS ANTICIPATED?

This is a final action for these changes to the list of categories; however, the EPA is required by the CAA to continue to review and update the source category list if new information necessitates a change. Accordingly, EPA intends to continue its practice of evaluating newly available data and routinely reviewing the list to assure it is accurate.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION...

Anyone with a computer and a modem can download the Federal Register notice from the Clean Air Act Amendments bulletin board (under "Recently Signed Rules") of EPA's Technology Transfer Network (TTN) by calling (919) 541-5742. For further information about how to access the TTN, call (919) 541-5384. For further information about the specifics of this action, call David Svendsgaard at (919) 541-2380.